AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 19, as follows:

Referring now to Figure 2, there is shown a detailed circuit diagram 82 of the A.C. input sub-system 82 of the multifunction IED 10. An input signal from a field transformer 80 is received in the terminal block P2 through the first terminal block position P2-1. Terminal block P2 includes terminal block positions P2-1 to P2-6. The received signal enters conductor 11 and exits through the second terminal block position P2-2 where conductor 11 terminates. It should be noted that field transformer 80 need not necessarily be terminated at the terminal block P2, rather the connections from transformer 80 may pass through to the primary winding of transformer T1. Metal oxide varistor (MOV) 13, and capacitor 14 provide normal mode surge and fast transient protection to IED 10 from interference surges in respective phase of the power line. A circuit formed by MOVs 15, 17, and the capacitors 16, 18 provide common mode surge and impulse protection to circuit created by conductor 11. In the exemplary embodiment of Figure 2, the A.C. input subsystem 82 is discussed with respect to three phases, generally identified as phase 1, phase 2, and phase 3, to explain the inventive concept without ambiguity. The present invention may actually be capable of operating on up to 12 phases of an electric circuit. It will further be appreciated that the present apparatus may be readily scaled to accommodate additional phases of an electric circuit.